(c) what strategy/action plan has been drawn by Government to popularise the available modern technology and equipment in the rural areas to prevent foodgrain losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Starvation Deaths in Tripura

156. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the starvation deaths in the Atharmura hills of Tripura recently;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what measures have been taken by Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) There are no reports of starvation deaths in the Atharmura hills of Tripura recently.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Dams in District Garhwal Region

157. SHRI KRISHAN KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of the projects for construction of dams proposed to be taken up by Government in Garhwal region;

(b) what is the present stage of these projects; and

(c) whether in view of the recent devastating earthquake in Tehri region Government propose to review these projects considering the high seismic risk in the Himalayan belt?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c) The Government of Uttar Pradesh are investigating 7 new major and medium storage dams in the Garhwal Himalayan region. These projects are in the early stages of investigations only and detailed project reports are yet to be submitted by the State Government to the Central Government for techno-economic appraisal at which stage all relevant factors are considered.

गुजरात में अहमदाबाद और बड़ोदरा में टेलीफोन प्रणाली

158. **श्री राम सिंह राठवा**: क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गुजरात में अहमदाबाद और बड़ोदरा जिलों में टेलीफ़ोन सेवाएं खराब हैं ;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो वहां टेलीफोन एक्सचेंजों में कितनी-कितनी क्षमता का प्रयोग किया जा रहा है ;

(ग) गत दो वर्षों के दौरान कितनी शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई हैं ; और

(घ) सरकार द्वारा इन जिलों में टेलीफोन प्रणाली को सुचारु बनाने के लिए क्या प्रयास किये गये हैं ?

संचार मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री पी० वी० रंगैया नायडू) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता । तथापि, एक्सचेंजों की क्षमता का इस्तेमाल अहमदाबाद में 93.69 प्रतिशत तथा बड़ोदरा में 88.47 प्रतिशत है ।

(ग) पिछले दो वर्षों के दौरान प्रति 100 टेलीफोनों की प्रति माह प्राप्त हुई